GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:595
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2005
PROMOTION OF BIO-DIESEL
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) The names of countries using the bio-diesel and what was the experience of those countries on production and usage of bio-diesel in their countries;

(b) Whether the Government has taken any initiatives for introduction and commercial production of bio-diesel in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for setting up of bio-diesel industries in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (d) The European Union, United States (USA), Canada and some other countries have undertaken bio-diesel programme with a variety at feed-stock being used. The feed-stock for production of bio-diesel in EU and USA are vegetable oil which are mainly edible oil. Bio-diesel is being blended at 5 to 20% level in USA, Canada and EU and is being used commercially. India is short of edible oil, hence non-edible oils like Jatropha Curcus and Pangomia etc. can be considered as feed-stocks for manufacture of bio-diesel in the Indian context.

The Planning Commission had set up a Committee on Development of Bio-fuel which recommended the launching of a National Mission on Bio-diesel with a special focus on the plantation of Jatropha curcas. The Ministry of Rural Development has been made the nodal Ministry for the National Mission on Bio-diesel and that Ministry has recently got a Detailed Project Report prepared by The Energy and Research Institute(TERI).